PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

TRANSLATION INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant HTT1	's or agent's file reference .PCT	FOR FURTHER	R ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416							
International application No.			ate (day/month/year)	Priority date (day/month/year)						
PCT/CH2004/000026		19.01.200)4	18.12.2003						
Internatio	International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC									
D06F59/02, D06F58/00										
Applicant HATT, Rolf										
	 This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. 									
2.	This REPORT consists of a	total of	sheets, including	g this cover sheet.						
3.	This report is also accompa	nied by ANNEXES, comprising	:							
	a. (sent to the app.	licant and to the International B	ureau) a total of	sheets, as follows:						
	sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).									
	sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.									
		rnational Bureau only) a total of	Gindicate type and number	r of electronic carrier(s))						
	,	,,	· (
	, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).									
4.	This report contains indicat	tions relating to the following ite	ms:							
	Box No. I B	asis of the report								
	Box No. II Pi	riority								
	Box No. III N	on-establishment of opinion wit	h regard to novelty, invent	ive step and industrial applicability						
	Box No. IV L	ack of unity of invention								
	Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement									
	Box No. VI C	ertain documents cited								
	Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application									
	Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application									
Date of submission of the demand			Date of completion of thi	is report						
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP			Authorized officer							
Facsimile No			Telephone No							

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/CH2004/000026

Вох	No. I	Basis of the report								
1.		n regard to the language , this report is based on the internat cated under this item.	ional application in the language in	which it was filed, unless otherwise						
			report is based on translations from the original language into the following language this the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:							
		international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))	international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))							
		publication of the international application (Rule 12	4.4)							
		international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 ar	nd/or 55.3)							
2.	rece		gard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the ag Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to ort);							
		the international application as originally filed/furnished								
	\boxtimes	the description:								
		pages <u>1-13</u>		as originally filed/furnished						
		pages*	received by this Authority on							
		pages*	received by this Authority on							
	\boxtimes	the claims:								
		nos.		as originally filed/furnished						
		nos.*	as amended (togethe							
		nos.* _ 1-11	received by this Authority on	31.05.2005 with letter of 31.05.2005						
		nos.*	received by this Authority on							
	\boxtimes	the drawings:								
		sheets _ 1/2,2/2		as originally filed/furnished						
		sheets*	received by this Authority on							
		sheets*	received by this Authority on							
		a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supple	emental Box Relating to Sequence L	isting.						
3.		The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:								
		the description, pages								
		the claims, nos.	the claims, nos.							
		the drawings, sheets/figs								
		the sequence listing (specify):								
		any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify):								
4.		This report has been established as if (some of) the ame they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as								
		the description, pages								
		the claims, nos.								
		the drawings, sheets/figs	the drawings, sheets/figs							
		the sequence listing (specify):								
		any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify):								
*	If ite	em 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "si	iperseded."							

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/CH2004/000026

Box		Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement			
1.	Statement				
	Novelty (N)	Claims	1-11	YES	
		Claims		_ NO	
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-11	_ YES	
		Claims		_ NO	
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	_1-11	YES	
		Claims		_ NO	

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

This report makes reference to the following documents:

- D1: US 2003/222038 A1 (COLLIER JAMES P) 4
 December 2003 (2003-12-04)
- 1. Independent claim 1:

D1, which is regarded as the closest prior art, discloses (entire document) a similar device, from which the subject matter of claim 1 differs in that in the former, each of the lower ends of the two vertical supports is bent to form a base such that the vertical supports are approximately centered over the surfaces of the bases, and all of the previously mentioned parts are bent from one pipe.

Therefore, the subject matter of claim 5 is novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

The problem to be solved by the present invention can be regarded as that of providing a device for drying and storing sports

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

equipment, for example for ice hockey players, which can be manufactured in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

The solution to this problem as proposed in claim 1 of the present application involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) for the following reasons:

A person skilled in the art cannot directly derive the feature "each of the lower ends of the two vertical supports is bent to form a base such that the vertical supports are approximately centered over the surfaces of the bases, and all of the previously mentioned parts are bent from one pipe" from the cited prior art. The above feature is not an obvious possibility from which a person skilled in the art would choose according to the circumstances in order to solve the problem of interest.

2. Dependent claims 2-11:

These claims are dependent on claim 1 and therefore likewise meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step.